

# **The role of intellectual capital management in academic libraries: a review of the literature**

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## **Abstract**

The 21<sup>st</sup> century is the era of management of intangible assets, just as the 20<sup>th</sup> had been that of management of tangible assets. For this reason, Intellectual Capital (IC) appears to be more timely than ever for the promotion of the effectiveness of both the companies and the non-profit organizations. To this direction, Kostagiolas and Asonitis (2011) come to “make a breakthrough” and to provide first results about the effect of intellectual capital utilization in the overall library management. Based on that an initial stimulus of this issue has been the purpose of the current paper which is threefold. First of all, to review the literature in order to provide an overview of the definitions and classification of the intellectual capital. Secondly, to determine the concept of intellectual capital management, which is a set of simple management tools that allows libraries to tap into reservoirs of knowledge and expertise. And finally, to highlight its interrelation in academic libraries’ management. Last but not least, we suggest some vital points for further research on the intellectual capital management in academic libraries by focusing both on its role and its importance.

**Keywords:** Intellectual Capital, Intangible Assets, Intellectual Capital Management, Academic Libraries